U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/586430 11/22/2010

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Method of assembling a container system for blood, body fluids, tissue parts, or tissue cultures, which container system has a closure device comprising a cap and a sealing device made from a pierceable, highly elastic and self-closing material which is inserted before said cap is screwed on, and a substantially cylindrical housing container enclosing an interior with an open end, whereby a cap casing of the cap extends around an open end face of the housing container by means of the cap which extends around an open end face of the housing container by means of it's the cap having an open end region directed towards the housing container during the assembly process wherein the method comprises:

inserting a sealing surface of the sealing device in the open region of the interior of the housing container;

placing a thread arrangement with co-operating threads between the cap and the housing container; and

creating a relative rotating or pivoting movement which is effected about a common

longitudinal axis in order to assemble the closure device and the housing container (5),

simultaneously assembling several closure devices with the housing containers to be joined to form the container system in a common assembly unit and prior to joining the components to be assembled the interiors of the housing containers are sealed off from the external atmosphere and are reduced to a pressure lower than the external ambient pressure

and one of the components to be assembled is respectively supported on a thrust bearing of the assembly unit so as to be rotatable about its longitudinal axis for the joining operations,

applying a pressing force (F) essentially <u>axially along</u> in a longitudinal axis wherein the force is applied to at least one of the components to be assembled by the assembly unit;

converting the <u>essentially axial</u> pressing force (f) intended to generate the relative movement into a the relative rotating or pivoting movement about the common longitudinal axis (14) by the co-operating threads which are configured at a pitch angle to convert said essentially axial pressing force into said rotating or pivoting movement; and

engaging the threads of the thread arrangement with one another across the entire length of the screwing in path until the fully screwed in portion is reached during the relative rotating or U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/586430 11/22/2010

pivoting movement.

2: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pressing force (F) is applied to the cap of the closure device.

3: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the pressing force (F) is being applied, the cap is held stationary relative to the housing container (5) and the housing container is displaced in the relative rotating or pivoting movement.

4: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing container (5) is held stationary relative to the cap when the pressing force (F) is being applied.

5: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the relative rotating or pivoting movement is caused by the pressing force (F) with an intensity of between 10N and 50N.

Please cancel claims 6-7.

8: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein before applying the pressing force (F), one of the components to be assembled is pre-positioned relative to the other

one of the components to be assembled by a free rotation about the common longitudinal axis.

Please cancel claim 9.

10: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 108, further comprising the step of applying a coating on at least one component forming the container system_before the assembly process.

11: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating is applied to at least certain areas in the region of a coupling mechanism between the cap and the housing container.

- 12: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating is applied to the part of the thread arrangement disposed on the housing container.
- 13: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating is applied to the part of the thread arrangement disposed on the cap.
- 14: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating is applied to a sealing surface of a stopper of the sealing device directed towards the housing container (5).

15: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating is applied to an internal surface of the housing container facing the sealing surface of the stopper of the sealing device.

16: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating is applied to the respective coating region continuously or all over.

17: (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the coating reduces friction between the components to be assembled in readiness for the joining operation.

Please cancel claims 18-107

108. (Currently Amended) A method of assembling a container system for blood, body fluids, tissue parts, or tissue cultures, which container system has a closure device comprising a cap and a sealing device and a substantially cylindrical housing container wherein the method comprises the following steps:

inserting a sealing surface of the sealing device in the open region of an interior of the housing container, wherein said sealing surface is made from a pierceable, highly elastic and self-

closing material which is inserted before the cap is screwed on, wherein said sealing surface extends across an open face of the housing container;

reducing an internal pressure to a pressure lower than an external ambient pressure;

placing a cap on the housing end covered by the sealing surface, wherein the cap and the housing container have a thread arrangement with co-operating threads;

applying a <u>an essentially axial</u> pressing force (F) essentially in a longitudinal axis wherein the force is applied to at least one of the components to be assembled by the assembly unit;

converting the <u>essentially axial</u> pressing force (F) intended to generate the relative movement into a relative rotating or pivoting movement about the common longitudinal axis by the co-operating threads;

force acting on the co-operating threads, wherein the movement which is effected about a common longitudinal axis in order to assemble the closure device and the housing container, and

engaging the threads of the thread arrangement with one another across the entire length

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/586430 11/22/2010

of the screwing in path until the fully screwed in portion is reached during the relative rotating or pivoting movement.